

Response to Reviewers

Authors are thankful to reviewers for their kindly and prompt comments. Specific replies to reviewers are listed as follows.

Reviewer 1 ID:02975812

Specific Comments to Authors:

In this study, the authors evaluated the effectiveness and safety of combined ursodeoxycholic acid and percutaneous transhepatic balloon dilation for management of gallstones after removal of CBD stones. Totally 15 consecutive patients suffering from CBD stones associated with gallstones were evaluated. All subjects underwent repeated cholangiography, and percutaneous transhepatic removal was carried out in patients with secondary CBD stones originating from the gallbladder. All patients underwent percutaneous transhepatic balloon dilation with primary success rate of 100%. The combined therapy was successful in 86.7% of patients with concomitant CBD stones and gallstones. The procedure is described in detail. Overall, the manuscript is well designed and the results are clear and very interesting. The title reflects the main subject/hypothesis of the manuscript. The manuscript describes methods in adequate detail, especially the procedure. The research objectives are achieved by the experiments used in this study. The authors found that for patient with concomitant CBD stones and gallstones, after percutaneous transhepatic removal of primary CBD stones, oral ursodeoxycholic acid and high-fat diet followed by percutaneous transhepatic removal of secondary CBD stones appear to be a feasible and effective option for management of gallstones after removal of CBD stones. Those findings are very important to the clinicians, and will guide the clinicians in the treatment of CBD stones. In this point, this study contributions a lot in the field. The manuscript need an editing, some blanks are missing. And some minor language polishing should be corrected.

Replies:

We have reviewed our manuscript carefully. Some blanks and language issues in the manuscript have been corrected. All changes are highlighted in red.

Special thanks to reviewer for great comments.

Reviewer 2 ID: 03013758

Specific Comments to Authors:

Excellent study, combined ursodeoxycholic acid and percutaneous transhepatic balloon dilation is a very feasible and safe alternative for management of gallstones after removal of CBD stones. The manuscript is very well written, and the results are important and interesting. I have no specific comments to the authors, the manuscript seems enough for publication.

Replies:

Thanks for your kindly comments to our manuscript. We have polished the language of our manuscript carefully.

Reviewer 3 ID: 03017792

Specific Comments to Authors:

VERY INTERESTING STUDY. NO COMMENTS.

Replies:

Special thanks to reviewer for kindly comments to our manuscript. All sentences and paragraphs have been checked by us.